

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 WELLIN 01555 180551 Z

16

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 W

----- 114330

R 180540 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6771

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 1555

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, NZ, AS

SUBJECT: PM KIRK'S TRIP TO OTTAWA

REF: STATE 114024

1. RE PARA 20 REFTTEL SECFO NAFF CORNER TOLD ME 18 JUNE PM KIRK DOES NOT PLAN VISIT US ENROUTE TO OTTAWA.
 2. KIRK HAS BEEN IRRITATED BY PRESS REPORTS HERE THAT HE AND PM WHITLAM HAVE BEEN INVITED TO SAN CLEMENTE AND HAS ISSUED STATEMENT THAT THESE REPORTS WERE "BASELESS SPECULATION". GIST OF HIS STATEMENT FOLLOWS:
 3. "THE STORY IS WILDLY OFF BEAM AND COMPLETELY INACCURATE IN ALL OF ITS STATEMENTS. I HAVE HAD NO INVITATION, HAVE SOUGHT NO INVITATION AND HAVE NO INTENTION AT THIS TIME OF SEEKING A MEETING WITH PRESIDENT NIXON.
- "MY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS ARE YET TO BE CONCLUDED, BUT BECAUSE THE NEW ZEALAND PARLIAMENT IS IN SESSION I SHALL LEAVE NEW ZEALAND AS LATE AS POSSIBLE AND GO DIRECT TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S CONFERENCE AT OTTAWA.
- "I HAVE NO INDICATION FROM EITHER PRESIDENT NIXON OR MR WHITLAM OR ANYBODY ELSE THAT THERE IS ANY

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PAGE 02 WELLIN 01555 180551 Z

INTEREST IN SEEKING ANY CHANGE IN THESE PLANS. FURTHERMORE,
THE FACTS MAKE NONSENSE OF THE CLAIMS THAT ARRANGEMENTS
ARE AFOOT FOR A SUMMIT ANZUS MEETING.

" MY GOVERNMENT HAS ISSUED AN INVITATION FOR THE
NEXT ANZUS COUNCIL MEETING TO BE IN WELLINGTON AT
FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. THIS INVITATION HAS BEEN
ACCEPTABLE IN WASHINGTON AS WELL AS CANBERRA AND THERE
HAS BEEN NO INDICATION OF ANY CHANGE IN THAT PROPOSAL.

" IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE STORY EMANATING FROM
WASHINGTON CAN BE DISMISSED AS A BASELESS SPECULATION".
WOOD

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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